

Volume VI.—Number 48.

Edenton, Chowan County, North Carolina, Thursday, November 30, 1939.

\$1.25 Per Year.

## E. W. Spires Strong For Reproduction Of Civil War Naval Battle At Sandy Point

Former Mayor Outlines Affair In Radio Address; Idea Advanced By Dixon For Sound Bridge Celebration

In a radio address Wednesday of last week, delivered over the Edenton hook-up with WCNC at Elizabeth City, former Mayor E. W. Spires revealed the fact that he had not given up the idea of re-enacting the battle of Sandy Point during the Civil War. The idea was presented by Mr. Spires at a recent meeting in Edenton of the Greater Albemarle Association, following failure of the episode to materialize as originally suggested by Richard D. Dixon in connection with the celebration and dedication last year of the vehicular bridge across Albemarle Sound.

Mr. Spires sees in the event a splendid opportunity to publicize the Albemarle section and firmly believes it would attract national recognition, in that, so far as he knows, while battles on land have been re-enacted by the government, there has been no naval battle reproduced.

Mr. Spires' remarks over the radio were as follows:

"Last year when plans were being laid for the celebration of the opening of the magnificent highway bridge across the Albemarle Sound, a suggestion was made by Richard Dillard Dixon, Edenton's affable Clerk of Court and historian par excellence, that the Battle of Sandy Point, a Civil War naval engagement of fascinating historic lore, be re-enacted, but time was insufficient to procure the necessary enactment of Congress for the funds and the subsequent completion of so elaborate plans.

"While many land battles have been reproduced by the Army, including the Battle of Bull Run this year, the Battle of the Crater last year, the Surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown and others, we are not informed of any re-enactment of a naval battle.

"The Battle of Sandy Point took place ten miles east of the Roanoke River, near the site of the new

bridge across the Albemarle Sound, which furnishes a natural background of scenic beauty and numerous advantages for the staging of such a magnificent spectacle.

"In this pageant, the 'Albemarle,' the 'one eagle' of the Confederate Navy in upper Albemarle waters, would be seen steaming proudly out of the Roanoke River with a troopship and a captured vessel laden with coal and provisions in tow. Billowing from her smokestack great waves of black smoke could be perceived floating lazily against an azure Western sky, as if defying any and all enemy craft to challenge her heretofore mastery of these waters.

"And prouder she had a justifiable right to be, for had not she succeeded just two weeks previously in sinking the Federal warship 'Southfield' and putting to hurried flight the 'Miami' to which the 'Southfield' had been chained by orders of Lieut.-Commander Flusser near Plymouth in a vain effort to defend the Federal troops in control of the latter place? Flusser, an heroic commander, was killed by splintering iron from the armor plates of the 'Albemarle' when his own gun was fired point-blank.

"Now the scene shifts to the area adjacent to the new bridge where one would see a great array of naval power under the command of Captain Melancthon Smith, who had been hurriedly sent South to hold the mouth of the Roanoke. Under his command were four large armored double-enders, the 'Sassacus,' the 'Mattabesett,' the 'Whitehead' and the 'Wyalusing,' which together with the battleships 'Commodore Hull' and the 'Ceres,' already there, made a formidable squadron.

"Observing the challenge to his dominion Confederate Naval Commander James W. Cooke, formerly an officer of the United States Navy, orders his tow placed at anchor and with engines at full speed ahead, steams 'rapidly' toward the Federal fleet which had drawn up in battle formation.

"A fierce struggle ensued and when the smoke of battle had lifted, two of the Federal ships had been sent to 'Davy Jones Locker' and the others finally retired. The 'Albemarle' al-

though rammed and subjected to heavy bombardment, was considerably damaged, and with much difficulty managed to return to Plymouth.

"It is the purpose of the Greater Albemarle Association to enlist the never-failing aid of our splendid Congressman Lindsay Warren in the procurement of an appropriation by Congress whereby the Navy Department might carry out this awe-inspiring pageant. It is our thought that possibly the military battle at Plymouth, which was taken twice by the Federal troops, as well as the subsequent sinking of the 'Albemarle' at Plymouth by the heroic Captain Cushing, who finally succeeded in placing a torpedo under the ship despite a heavy barrage of gun-fire by the Confederate troops on shore, might also be included in the pageantry.

"We believe that the Navy Department would be willing to utilize some of the old Shipping Board wooden steamers, built hurriedly during the World War and since remaining idle, for this purpose. Blank shells would of course be used in the cannon. After the battle, modern bombing planes would fly over raining bombs upon the hulk of a ship which would have purposely been run aground in shallow water. This would afford an excellent contrast of the manner of warfare used in both periods.

"Moreover, representatives from the newsreels would be on hand and a running fire description of the battle would be broadcast by radio from observation balloons floating above the scene.

"In conclusion, I desire to state that it is not the purpose of the Greater Albemarle Association to promote this show as a counter-attraction to The Lost Colony drama at Roanoke Island, which, under the most capable guidance of my good friend Bradford Fearing, has attained international fame, but rather in collaboration therewith."

### Do You Like FRUIT CAKE? Try One of These Recipes

This time of the year every housekeeper is busy planning her cakes for the Christmas feast. Fruit cake is much improved by time—standing allows the many fruits and spices to blend together to make a delightful cake.

There are two kinds of fruit cake, a dark one, which is heavily spiced, made with brown sugar or molasses, which adds to the spicy flavor; the white fruit cake is made without spices. The cakes may be baked or steamed according to preference.

Bake your pound cake a day or so before you wish to use it.

#### Black Fruit Cake No. 1

1 dozen eggs.  
1 pound sugar.  
1 pound butter.  
1½ pounds flour.  
2 pounds shelled nuts, chopped.  
1 cup brandy.  
2 teaspoons cinnamon.  
1 teaspoon allspice.  
2 pounds raisins.  
2 pounds currants.  
1 pound citron, cut fine.  
1 pound dates, chopped.  
1 cup molasses.  
1 teaspoon cloves.  
2 teaspoons nutmeg.  
1 teaspoon soda.

The flour should be slightly browned in the oven before commencing the cake. Cream the sugar and butter, add eggs, the yolks and the whites being beaten separately, and one pound of flour. Use the other flour to dredge the fruit when added to the cake batter. Lastly, add soda, dissolved in 1 tablespoon of water, add brandy. Divide into 2 parts and bake at temperature 275 degrees for 2 hours.

#### White Fruit Cake No. 1

½ pound butter.  
½ pound sugar.  
6 eggs.  
2 cups grated coconut.  
½ pound flour.

## 1940 Cotton Marketing Quota Referendum Dec. 9

All Farmers Who Produced Cotton In 1939 Eligible to Vote; Allotment For Chowan County Fixed at 5,045 Acres

Farmers of Chowan County have been allotted 5,045.7 acres on which to grow cotton in 1940 under the Agricultural Conservation Program, and if they approve quotas for next year they will be allowed to sell all the cotton they are able to produce on their allotted acreage without penalty.

The cotton marketing quota referendum will be held on Saturday, December 9, and all farmers who produced cotton in 1939 will be eligible to vote.

In announcing the county quotas, E. Y. Floyd, AAA executive officer of State College, said that every grower will know his individual cotton acreage allotment for 1940 before he votes. Farmers are being notified of their quotas, and all should be

reached within the next two weeks.

The quotas for 1940 are substantially the same as they were for 1939. The State allotment is 979,543.7 acres. This is divided among 79 counties where cotton is produced. Robeson County received the largest allotment, 54,614.9 acres, followed by Cleveland, with 51,091.1 acres; Johnston, 44,849.7 acres; Union, 42,802.2; Sampson, 39,463.7; Halifax, 39,248.0; and Anson, 33,032.4 acres.

Floyd pointed out that the allotments will be in effect in connection with the soil-building program whether quotas are approved or not. Allotments of other counties in this section include: Bertie, 9,936.4; Gates, 6,350.7; Hyde, 4,014; Perquimans, 6,148.5; Tyrrell, 1,177.5; Washington, 2,674.8.

½ pound citron.

½ pound shelled almonds, chopped.

½ pound shelled, chopped pecans.

1 teaspoon baking powder.

Cut citron thin and dredge with extra flour. Cream the butter and sugar and add well beaten eggs. Add the flour, sifted with the baking powder. Add all other ingredients. Mix thoroughly. Bake in oven 275 degrees for one hour. This makes one loaf.

White Fruit Cake No. 2

4 eggs.

1 cup butter.

2 cups sugar.

3 cups flour.

1 cup black walnuts.

1 cup almonds, chopped.

1 pound pineapple, cut fine.

1 pound citron, cut fine.

½ pound candied cherries.

1 teaspoon vanilla.

1 teaspoon lemon.

Mix and bake in loaf pans as other

fruit cakes.

#### Poor Man's Cake

½ cup butter.

1 cup sugar.

1 cup watermelon rind preserves.

2 teaspoons baking powder.

2 eggs.

½ teaspoon salt.

½ teaspoon cloves.

½ teaspoon cinnamon.

1 cup nuts, chopped.

½ cup raisins.

2 cups flour.

1 tablespoon cocoa.

½ teaspoon mace.

Mix as other cakes. Bake in an oven 375 degrees for 1 hour.

#### Ribbon Fruit Cake

2½ cups sifted cake flour.

1 teaspoon each baking powder and salt.

½ teaspoon cloves.

½ teaspoon cinnamon.

(Continued On Page Eight)

### AS COMFORTABLE AS A BIRD-DOG BY THE FIRE

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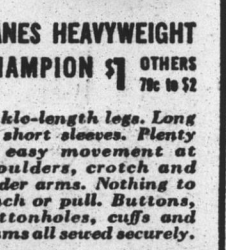
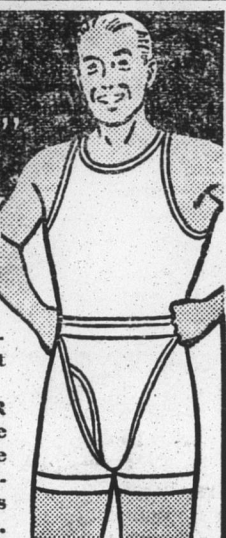
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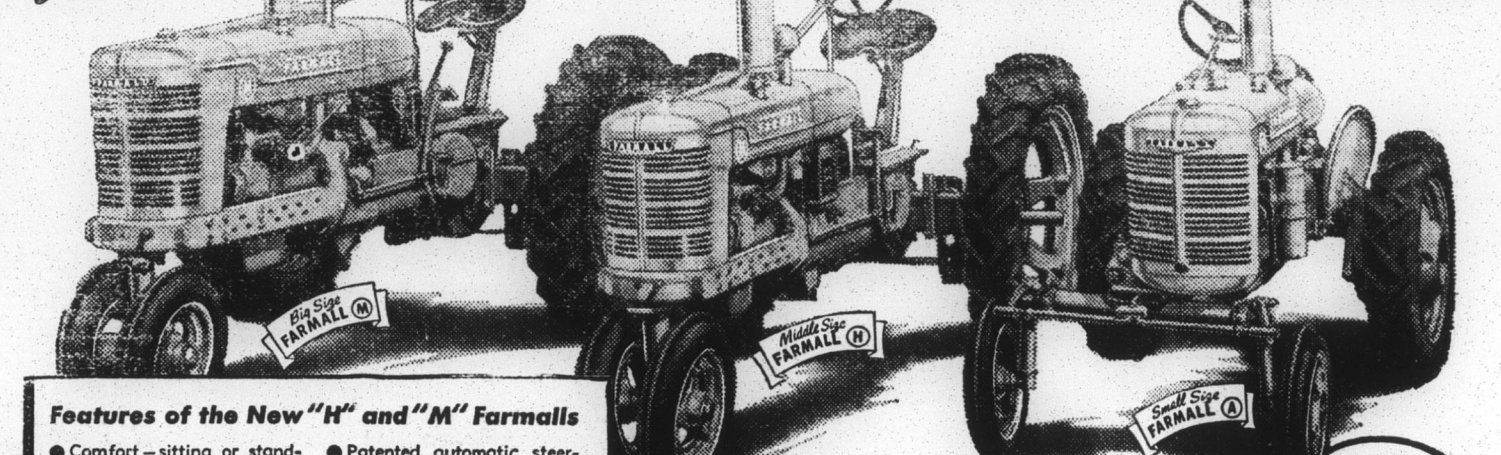
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